

REMARKS

Claims 24 and 26-30 are pending in the subject application.

Applicants have amended claims 24 and 26-30, and have canceled claim 25. These changes do not introduce any new matter.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the rejection of claims 24-30 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Ogiwara et al.* (“*Ogiwara*”) (US 7,161,701 B2) in view of *Smart et al.* (“*Smart*”) (US 2003/0208691 A1) (as noted above, claim 25 has been canceled). As will be explained in more detail below, the combination of the *Ogiwara* and *Smart* references would not have rendered the subject matter defined in independent claim 24, as amended herein, obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art.

Applicants have amended independent claim 24 to define an image processing method performed by an image supply device storing image data and an image output device operable to perform a print operation in which an object corresponding to the image data is printed. The image processing method defined in present claim 24 includes the following features:

- i) a first information item specifying an object allocated at a predetermined position in a page layout is transmitted from the image output device to the image supply device;
- ii) the first information item is stored in the image supply device;
- iii) *when a print operation is interrupted*, the image supply device generates, based on the stored first information item, a second information item including a first script configured to *resume* the interrupted print operation and a second script specifying an object to be first printed by the image output device *when the interrupted print operation is resumed*;
- iv) the generated second information item is transmitted from the image supply device to the image output device; and

v) the image output device resumes the interrupted print operation.

Support for the changes made to claim 24 can be found in Applicants' specification at, for example, page 54, lines 11-23. Accordingly, these changes do not introduce any new matter.

The *Ogiwara* reference discloses a system that includes an imaging apparatus and a printing apparatus. The imaging apparatus determines the type of photo-direct (PD) printing apparatus that is connected to the imaging apparatus, and selects the type of image data to be output to the PD printing apparatus based on the determination result. The *Ogiwara* reference is silent as to the interruption of a printing operation and the resuming of the printing operation from the interrupted state. As such, for at least this reason, the *Ogiwara* reference does not disclose or suggest each and every feature of the method defined in present claim 24.

The *Smart* reference, which discloses a secure pick-up process for sending print jobs across a network, has been cited to show communication between a digital camera and a printer at least a part of which is described by a markup language. Thus, the *Smart* reference does not cure the deficiencies of the *Ogiwara* reference relative to the subject matter defined in present claim 24.

In view of the foregoing, even if the *Ogiwara* and *Smart* references were to be combined in the manner proposed by the Examiner, the result of this combination would not have included each and every feature of the subject matter defined in present claim 24. As such, the combination of the *Ogiwara* and *Smart* references would not have rendered the subject matter defined in present claim 24 obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art.

Accordingly, independent claim 24, as amended herein, is patentable under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over the combination of *Ogiwara* in view of *Smart*. Claims 26-30, each of which ultimately depends from claim 24, are likewise patentable under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over the

combination of *Ogiwara* in view of *Smart* for at least the same reasons set for above regarding claim 24.

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and reexamination of claim 24 and 26-30, as amended herein, and submit that these claims are in condition for allowance. Accordingly, a notice of allowance is respectfully requested. In the event a telephone conversation would expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner may reach the undersigned at **(408) 749-6902**. If any fees are due in connection with the filing of this paper, then the Commissioner is authorized to charge such fees to Deposit Account No. 50-0805 (Order No. NGBCP005).

Respectfully submitted,  
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